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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
RIKIO SHIBA ET AL.)
Application No.: 09/975,968)
Filed: October 15, 2001)
For: COLLECTING METHOD BY)
INFORMATION PROCESSOR)
AND ORDERING METHOD OR)
SALES METHOD : February 11, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT
AND
ELECTION-OF-SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Sir:

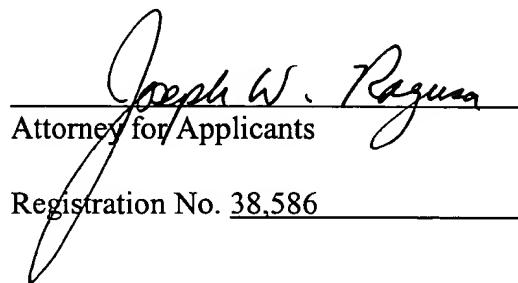
In response to the Office Action dated August 1, 2002, Applicants provisionally elect to prosecute Group I (Claims 1-4, 41, and 51), drawn to a collection method in Class 345, subclass 780.

Further, Applicants elect to proceed with the prosecution of Species A2, B2, and C3, represented by Figures 17, 9, and 12, respectively (on which Claims 1-4, 41, and 51 read).

An early and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 38,586

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